UNITED NATIONS

DP

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/1994/10/Add.1
19 May 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Annual session 1994
6-17 June 1994, Geneva
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR 1993

Addendum

MAIN PROGRAMME RECORD

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	Page
I.	PROGRAMME RESOURCES	1 - 8	3
A.	Pledges	1 - 4	3
B.	Programme expenditures by source of funds, region and sector	5 - 7	3
C.	New project approvals	8	4
II.	COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES	9 - 92	4
A.	Regional Bureau for Africa	9 - 28	4
B.	Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific	29 - 41	8
C.	Regional Bureau for Arab States	42 - 47	12
D.	Division for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States	48 - 62	14
E.	Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean	63 - 84	18
F.	Division for global and interregional programmes	85 - 92	22

CONTENTS (continued)

		Paragraphs	Page
III.	SPECIAL PROGRAMME RESOURCES	93 - 98	24
IV.	FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	99 - 147	26
	A. United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)	99 - 103	26
	B. United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration (UNRFNRE)	104 - 106	27
	C. United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSTD)	107 - 111	27
	D. United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO)	112 - 119	28
	E. United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)	120 - 124	29
	F. United Nations Volunteers (UNV)	125 - 130	31
	G. Global Environmental Facility (GEF)	131 - 138	32
	H. Trust Fund for the Interim Multilateral Fund under the Montreal Protocol	139 - 141	33
	I. Capacity 21	142 - 147	34
V.	OTHER MAJOR FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES	148 - 177	35
	A. Technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC)	148 - 156	35
	B. Humanitarian assistance	157 - 160	38
	C. Inter-agency Procurement Services Office (IAPSO)	161 - 168	38
	D. Office for Project Services (OPS)	169 - 174	40
	E. Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People	175 - 177	41

I. PROGRAMME RESOURCES

A. Pledges

1. Based on the pledges received by January 1994 and the estimates of contributions from countries that have been unable to make pledges so far, 1994 contributions to the central resources of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are expected to be of the same level as those of 1993, i.e., approximately $910 million. The 1993 resources fell below the 1992 level by 15 per cent. According to the original projections based on the Governing Council target for the fifth cycle, 1994 contributions should have amounted to $1,260 million. This represents a shortfall of about $350 million for 1994, after a shortfall of $245 million for 1993.

2. The shortfall for 1993 and the rest of the cycle obliged UNDP to restrict commitments for ongoing and planned activities to 75 per cent of the indicative planning figure (IPF) allocations, developed on the basis of Governing Council decision 90/34. The Executive Board will review the IPF levels in 1994.

3. Of the donor countries members of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD/DAC) that have made pledges so far, Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Portugal have maintained the 1994 contributions at the previous year's levels, while Denmark, Finland, Ireland and Sweden have increased their contributions.

4. A number of programme countries have increased their contributions. These include: Bangladesh, Honduras, India, Mongolia, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Niue, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam. India continues to be the largest non-DAC donor, while the Republic of Korea has pledged an increase of over 50 per cent.

B. Programme expenditures by source of funds, region and sector

5. Field programme expenditures, comprising outlays from IPFs, Special Programme Resources (SPR), the Special Measures Fund for Least Developed Countries (SMF/LDC), cost-sharing and government cash counterpart contributions, amounted to $1.031 billion in 1993, representing an increase of 0.4 per cent over the previous year. The largest share of field programme expenditures, 49.2 per cent, was invested in project personnel, which includes internationally and nationally recruited experts and United Nations Volunteers (UNV) specialists. Of the rest of the expenditures, 19.3 per cent went for subcontracts; 15.4 per cent for project equipment; 9.3 per cent for training; and the remainder for miscellaneous expenses such as maintenance and operational costs (tables 2 and 3 of the statistical annex contain further details).

6. Divided by sources of funds, the largest share of field programme expenditures in 1993, 59 per cent, flowed from IPF resources. Cost-sharing expenditures, both government and third-party, which have been rising over the past eight years, accounted for 33 per cent of the expenditures; SPR for

4.5 per cent. A more detailed breakdown is given in table 3 of the statistical annex.

7. Regionally, both sub-Saharan Africa and the Asia-Pacific regions each absorbed about 37 per cent of IPF resources in 1993. Another 10 per cent was spent in the Latin American and Caribbean region; in the Arab States, 8 per cent; and in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, 1 per cent. The rest, about 6 per cent, was spent on interregional and global projects.

C. New projects approvals

8. There were 954 new projects approved during 1993, falling from 972 in the previous year. In dollar terms, the value of new project approvals totalled $782 million, compared to $642 million in 1992. Of the $782 million for new projects, $346 million, or 44 per cent, represented cost-sharing from Governments and third-party sources.

II. COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES

A. Regional Bureau for Africa

9. UNDP support for African development. UNDP sees its cooperation with African countries as threefold. First, to assist these countries in defining their own development goals, strategies and policies and finding the resources to attain them. Second, to help them build and strengthen national capacity so that they can manage their own development. And third, in collaboration with Africa's development partners, to give direct support to the development process and remove specific obstacles to it. Working through the Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA), UNDP in 1993 continued to provide support to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (NADAF) secretariat, mainly through its project executed by the Economic Commission for Africa.

10. Capacity-building and long-term planning. Capacity-building is emphasized in roughly 90 per cent of the fifth cycle country programmes in Africa. In 1993, UNDP provided assistance for strengthening economic management capacity in several countries in the region, including Gambia, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Zambia. UNDP interventions stressed not only capacity-building in central government but also in local government, as in the cases of Malawi, Sierra Leone and Zambia.

11. In South Africa, UNDP collaborated with the Commonwealth Secretariat, the United Nations Secretariat and relevant United Nations specialized agencies in identifying priority areas for government/donor cooperation and funding South African consultants in the preparation of studies for a donors conference on human resource development for post-apartheid South Africa, to be held in June 1994.

12. National execution. Seventy-five nationally executed projects were approved in 1993 for approximately $60 million, representing 45 per cent of the

total number of new projects approved and approximately 60 per cent of the total value in 1993. To help strengthen indigenous capacity for national execution, UNDP conducted a number of seminars and workshops on this initiative in 1993.

13. National technical cooperation assessment and programmes (NATCAPs). The NATCAP mechanism, conducted in two phases, is aimed mainly at making the demand for technical cooperation more firmly country-led, through the establishment of a database on technical cooperation, outlining national priorities for technical cooperation in a technical cooperation policy framework paper, and preparation of a technical cooperation programme (TCP), which does for technical cooperation what the Public Investment Programme (PIP) does for capital assistance. The exercise is ongoing in 31 countries, of which six have completed the last phase and have prepared a technical cooperation programme.

14. With the aim of making delivery systems for the transfer of skills more effective, UNDP continued to substitute national consultants for long-term expatriates and to use the services of short-term international consultants only when necessary.

15. African Capacity-Building Initiative (ACBI). An initiative of UNDP, the World Bank and the African Development Bank (AfDB), ACBI seeks to strengthen regional and national capacities to formulate and manage national economic policies and programmes and to support the internalization of long-term development planning. Eight more projects under this initiative were approved in 1993, bringing the total to 18, with a total commitment of $46.3 million. Further appraisal and sensitization missions were carried out in 1993. As to the actual number of Africans trained under the initiative, only 64 were trained in 1993 as opposed to the planned training of 255. This programme has experienced management and staffing difficulties in addition to the slow disbursement of funds by donors and is now undergoing a major transition.

16. National Long-Term Perspective Studies (NLTPS). First introduced in 1991 to help African countries define national priorities to guide their development over a 25-year horizon, the programme became fully operational in 1993. The exercise is under way in six countries; a number of conferences, seminars and workshops were held in 1993 to sensitize African countries further on the initiative.

17. Poverty alleviation and human development. In collaboration with other United Nations specialized agencies and bilateral partners, UNDP assisted programme countries in 1993 to design programmes and projects aimed at tackling the root causes of poverty through a comprehensive approach encompassing macroeconomic policy reforms as well as sectoral interventions. For instance, UNDP assisted the Government of Zimbabwe to prepare its poverty alleviation and social action plan, which was well received at that country's Consultative Group meeting in 1993. In Sao Tome and Principe, UNDP approved a project in 1993 that will support the national poverty alleviation programme of $16 million with contributions from AfDB, France, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).

18. Major efforts were made in several countries to operationalize the concept of human development as elaborated in the Human Development Reports. These

include Botswana, Cameroon, the Gambia, Guinea, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Namibia and Malawi. Emphasis was given to the participation of all segments of society in the development process. Special attention was paid to the promotion of women's participation in development; activities in this area included a major workshop on women held in Cape Verde.

19. Private sector. The development of the private sector is an area of concentration in about half of the country programmes in Africa, and some successes can be noted for 1993. For example, the Governments of Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi and Niger formulated national strategies for artisanal and small-enterprise development. In Zambia, the mid-term review of the fifth country programme in 1993 helped to reorient the programme to address new priority areas of private sector development and poverty alleviation.

20. Much of UNDP assistance was targeted at upstream activities, such as improved management, and the promotion of trade and investment. The Africa Project Development Facility, a joint effort of the AfDB, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), UNDP and bilateral donors had, by the end of 1993, completed over 130 projects in 25 countries, helping entrepreneurs to identify financial sources and to obtain technical and managerial expertise to help run their enterprises.

21. Health and HIV/AIDS. The linkage of health to human and economic development was exemplified by the expansion of economic activity in 11 West African countries, following the successful programme to eliminate river blindness from them. As for HIV/AIDS, UNDP approved in 1993, a $15.5 million programme for capacity-building in support of national programmes in Uganda. Furthermore, UNDP developed training materials for workshops for the benefit of civil servants, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), and UNV specialists in Kenya, Senegal, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

22. Environment and natural resource management. Roughly one half of UNDP country programmes in Africa addressed environmental management, including conservation, control of pollution and desertification. Approximately 14 UNDP-sponsored African projects were approved for funding under the Global Environment Facility (GEF), including $16 million for regional water pollution control and biodiversity preservation for Lake Tanganyika and the Gulf of Guinea. Implementation began on a range of innovative projects, including the Mauritania Wind Electric Power for Social and Economic Development, aimed at providing decentralized wind-based power services to rural areas. In 1993, UNDP helped African countries to negotiate the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification and sponsored several workshops on integrating environmental management with development planning and programming. Support was provided to a number of countries, for example, Cameroon, to prepare national environment programmes. In the case of Cameroon, UNDP helped to mobilize $23 million in donor support for the programme, excluding the UNDP contribution of $1 million.

23. Joint ventures between UNDP and other donors, for example, in forest management between Norway and UNDP in Mali and UNDP with NGOs in Burkina Faso, proved to be effective in mobilizing resources for environmental work. The

Burkina Faso venture involves over 100 village associations with 5,000 members trained in this activity. As regards the multi-donor-funded Africa 200 Network, a decision was taken in October 1993 to enhance its grass-roots character and, partly as a result, its headquarters will soon be moved from New York to Africa. The Network operates in 11 countries, providing grants of under $50,000 to grass-roots groups to manage environmental projects designed and implemented by themselves.

24. Round-table process and aid coordination. Two round-table meetings were held in 1993, for Burkina Faso and for Equatorial Guinea. The Burkina Faso round-table meeting focused on economic management and the policy framework paper; that for Equatorial Guinea concentrated on aid coordination, support to the structural adjustment programme and the development of long-term perspective policies. Sectoral consultations were held in the following countries: Benin: education, health, rural development, and transport; Burkina Faso: agriculture and environment; Cape Verde: environment, water and the public investment programme; Central African Republic: education; Niger: gold/mining sector.

25. Aid coordination within the United Nations specialized agencies was effectively conducted through the medium of monthly United Nations resident heads of agency meetings and was facilitated by the newly launched country strategy notes, now being prepared in many countries in the region. Other forms of aid coordination took place through government/donor meetings coordinated by the World Bank in Consultative Group countries.

26. Programme approach. UNDP continued in 1993 to apply the programme approach in its cooperation with Africa. Important examples include the leadership role played by UNDP in the comprehensive Feeder Roads Programme in Mozambique; in support provided by United Nations agencies to the Central African Republic for the formulation of an economic strategy for the newly installed democratic Government in that country; in the joint UNDP/World Bank capacity-building needs assessment in Ghana; and in the integrated community-based AIDS programmes in the Central African Republic, Congo and Uganda. A UNDP-supported multisectoral needs assessment in Nigeria, in 1993, provided the basis on which nine support programmes under the current country programme will be implemented.

27. Governance. UNDP provided support for the process towards democratization in a number of countries, for instance, assistance to Malawi's transition to multi-partyism, and to Sierra Leone's National Advisory Council to prepare the country for a return to civilian rule in 1995. In other cases, UNDP was involved in large-scale coordination and resource mobilization efforts. This helped, in part, to bring about an orderly transfer of power through democratic elections in Burundi, Eritrea, Mali, Namibia and Niger.

28. Humanitarian relief programmes. UNDP, in partnership with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA), other United Nations specialized agencies and other donors, extended emergency assistance, including the coordination of relief efforts, to several countries in conflict, including Angola, Liberia and Mozambique, while a United Nations inter-agency needs assessment mission was mounted in Zaire in late 1993. In Sierra Leone and Rwanda, UNDP played a leading role in coordinating multidonor humanitarian efforts in 1993.

B. Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific

29. Country programmes. Country programmes were approved for nine countries. Three mid-term reviews were undertaken and completed.

30. Programme approach. Two large programmes in India, Jute and Leather, gathered momentum and lessons learned from the first year were incorporated into the documentation and operations. In Bangladesh, UNDP is assisting the Government in the development of two major programmes in the urban and education sectors. The regional programme utilized the programme approach to facilitate the integration of cross-cutting issues into a rational programme with strategic aims. In contrast to the approximately 350 projects of the fourth cycle region-wide projects are now focused on only 16 key programmes under the three themes of: economic reform; environmental management; and poverty alleviation and human development. Regional ownership and increased national commitment is achieved through intensified consultation with countries before approval and during the implementation of each programme. In Thailand, UNDP assisted the Government in innovative strategies under the programme approach to enhance incomes of the rural population.

31. National execution. Some 125 nationally executed projects were approved during 1993 for $113 million, representing 59 per cent of the total number of new projects approved and 56 per cent of the total value. By comparison, over the entire fourth cycle (1987-1991) nationally executed projects represented about 12 per cent of total budgets. China and India are the leading countries in national execution and, in the fifth cycle (1992-1996), account for 35 per cent of the total number of projects and 56 per cent of the total value under national execution. During 1993, a regional service centre was opened in Kuala Lumpur, which is assisting Governments in the discharge of their accounting and reporting responsibilities.

32. Resources. As of the end of 1993, the fifth cycle IPF resources for the region are estimated to amount to $1.3 billion. Cost-sharing contributions from recipient countries and third parties are expected to provide another $100 million. During 1993, some 210 new projects were approved, with a value of about $187 million from IPF and SPR. The total expenditure for the region during 1993 is estimated at $250 million.

33. Aid coordination. In Viet Nam, UNDP assisted (as co-chair with the World Bank) in the preparations for and the conduct of the first donor conference on Viet Nam, held in Paris in November 1993. The conference resulted in pledges of $1.86 billion and UNDP was asked to be the main technical agency to assist the Government to improve its capacity in coordinating external assistance. Agreement was reached with the Asian Development Bank (AsDB), the World Bank, key Pacific Island intercountry organizations, and the Pacific Island countries, that UNDP will continue to be the lead agency supporting the round-table process for interested Governments. Substantive inputs for the process will be coordinated with the development banks. During 1993, six Pacific Island countries were preparing for round-table or sectoral meetings with support from UNDP. In Mongolia, UNDP worked closely with the World Bank on preparations for the donor meeting held in Tokyo under the auspices of the Government of Japan and the World Bank. UNDP specifically addressed issues relating to the social

impact of the ongoing economic transition, to governance and to aid coordination and management. In Cambodia, UNDP provided support to the preparation of the Royal Government's national strategy and actively participated in the first meeting of the International Committee on Reconstruction of Cambodia (ICORC) held in Paris in September, chaired by the Government of Japan. UNDP will lead and coordinate the development of ideas and programmes for capacity-building in Indo-china. This is being done at the request of the preparatory meeting for the first meeting of the Forum for the Comprehensive Development of Indo-china, to be hosted by the Government of Japan.

34. Inter-agency coordination. In Pakistan, UNDP established a United Nations Inter-Agency Support Unit, with costs shared by all United Nations specialized agencies represented in the country, including the World Bank. This unit assists with the planning and implementation of the local United Nations common agenda, a methodology for joint programming, which is operating, to date, in the fields of population, education and income generation and employment. A major emphasis is being placed on improving inter-agency coordination, especially among the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) partners - a former United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) staff member, for example, has been appointed Resident Representative in Bangladesh. This has facilitated the integration of UNDP and UNICEF interventions in the areas of urban development and disaster management in support of the national programmes.

35. Human development. In recognition of the work undertaken in Bangladesh to integrate human development concerns into the fifth Five-Year Plan, UNDP was asked to introduce the discussions on human development at the Consultative Group meeting in Paris in April; UNDP will continue to perform this role in 1994. In India, the Human Development Report 1993 was launched with broad participation of high-level government officials, bilateral donors and United Nations specialized agencies. UNDP supports a project to collect and analyse India-specific human development indicators and also supports establishment of the Parliamentarians Forum for Human Development. As part of the ongoing active advocacy role for rapid implementation of the Government's Social Action Plan, the heads of all United Nations agencies represented in Pakistan published an "Open letter" to Pakistan on human development, which appeared in all major newspapers in both English and Urdu and has led to interest and meetings with the President, the Prime Minister and leaders of the major parties on follow-up actions. To increase the number of actors involved in broad-based human development and to increase the sustainability of actions, the regional programme engaged the services of Synergos, an international NGO, to collate seven case studies of successful people's participation in six countries of the region. Also, the first instance of UNDP/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)/NGO collaboration in programme design, involved the Asian NGO Coalition (ANGOC) as a partner in integrating people's participation into a regional agriculture sector programme. A third example is the use of the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia/Pacific (ADFIAP), representing 76 institutions in 30 countries to provide training specifically designed for its own members under a programme for small and medium enterprises. In 1993, ADFIAP trained nearly 700 people from the network and government institutions and identified trainers for International Trade Centre/United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (ITC/UNCTAD) seminars. The Pacific Heads of State Forum Meeting welcomed the sustainable human development (SHD)

initiative of UNDP, which has already resulted in the publication of the Pacific Sustainable Human Development Report, addressing new development options, policies and strategies within the context of the Pacific Islands. Also, the implementation of community-based sustainable human development schemes has started on a pilot basis, aimed at planning and management of community initiatives to ensure improved and sustainable quality of life under small island conditions.

36. Poverty alleviation. In Nepal, following a national seminar on poverty alleviation organized with the World Bank, UNDP supports a multisectoral task force set up to develop a national poverty alleviation strategy and action plan. In Sri Lanka, working through local NGOs, UNDP supports the implementation of a national poverty alleviation programme and assists an integrated rural development programme aimed at poverty alleviation in one of the lowest-income regions of the country. In Pakistan, UNDP, UNICEF and the World Bank continue to support the successful National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme, which has strong participation of communities and local governments. Using SPR funds, UNDP completed an assessment of the poverty situation in rural areas of Mongolia. As a result of this involvement, Government and donors at the donor meeting in Tokyo requested UNDP to take the lead in poverty alleviation and to develop a multisectoral comprehensive framework for a coordinated donor effort. At the regional level, poverty alleviation strategies based upon natural resource management and conservation were discussed at a regional workshop entitled "Environment and poverty", sponsored by the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies.

37. Economic reform and management development. Following a Management Development Programme (MDP)-funded mission to Mongolia in 1992, UNDP has developed a comprehensive framework for addressing governance issues that has been approved by the Parliament. A senior expert from the Prime Minister's Office is now preparing a structure and the operational mechanisms for the programme to which several donors have indicated their participation. In Bangladesh, at the request of the Prime Minister, a study of the public administration sector, funded under TSS-1, recommended both short-term palliative measures and major long-term overhaul. The report has received widespread publicity in the press and has been the subject of a seminar of senior government officials. Concrete implementation plans are being completed. As a result of analysis and advice provided under the regional trade and investment programme, Viet Nam has decided to join the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency and is considering acceptance of several other international instruments, notably the New York Convention for the Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards. In the Philippines, UNDP assisted in the modernization of the election machinery.

38. Environment and natural resources management. As follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the Government of China embarked on a long process to formulate a national Agenda 21, involving some 50 governmental agencies. With funding from Capacity 21, UNDP assisted with the finalization of the initial draft document, with special emphasis on cross-sectoral issues. Following approval by the State Council, the document will form the basis of a high-level donor's conference in 1994. Further assistance from Capacity 21 is aimed at integrating the national Agenda 21 into

the national planning framework. At the regional level, launching meetings serving as consultative and planning mechanisms for regional programming were convened for region-wide programmes in agricultural resource management and marine pollution. Compliance to the international code of conduct and standards has been furthered by the Regional Network on Pesticides in Asia and Pacific with membership of 15 countries focusing upon operational and environmental aspects in harmonizing clean technologies; promoting the use of protective equipment for workers; assessing and re-vamping old factories; establishing standard effluent standards; and pollution control. Under the GEF, major emphasis was placed on the earliest possible approval and implementation of programmed projects. A total of $36 million, covering activities in over 20 countries and territories in the region was approved. In parallel, portfolio development continued with the development of a firm pipeline of projects worth $90 million. GEF pre-investment activities in six countries have catalysed follow-up capital and technical cooperation investments of approximately $92 million. Long-term biodiversity conservation has been addressed in the region, inter alia, through the establishment and management, with multi-donor participation, of innovative trust funds in Papua New Guinea and Bhutan. Training in the GEF themes and processes was vigorously pursued through workshops at headquarters and in five countries of the region.

39. HIV/AIDS. The Inter-Country Consultation on Law, Ethics and HIV, held in Cebu, Philippines on 3-6 May, was a significant step towards the establishment of a regional network to address the legal and ethical and human rights dimensions of HIV/AIDS in the Asia and Pacific region. The Consultation, which drew together participants from Government, the legal community and NGOs, included epidemiologists, lawyers, court advocates, ethicists, public health officials, economists, public policy experts and community health workers. Nine priority areas for HIV legal policy were identified: information law; workplace issues; families and careers; public health; discrimination; women's issues; prisons; criminal law; and the legal process itself.

40. Regional networks and information-sharing. The regional programme has been instrumental in the establishment of information and data-sharing among countries of the region, furthering intraregional understanding and technical know-how and contributing to common standards. For example, a network in the field of agricultural research included the exchange of germ plasm for improved tree-production and germ plasm for specific coarse grains and legumes; improved aquaculture practices and fish-seed exchanges. A database of telecommunication and socio-economic data for forecasting, costing, tariff application and financial evaluation of options for telecommunication planning activities was established at the Asian-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), an intergovernmental body.

41. Humanitarian assistance/disaster management. In Sri Lanka, the UNDP Resident Representative functions as the Humanitarian Programme Coordinator for UNDP, multilateral and bilateral donor programmes in connection with the growing number of internally displaced persons resulting from hostilities in the north and east of the country. Especially heavy monsoon rains caused severe landslides and flash floods in Nepal, where the Resident Representative, as head of the Disaster Management Team, ensured a flow of information and the coordination of relief assistance from various international donors. As a result of the strong support given to the relief and rehabilitation efforts, the

Resident Representative and concerned United Nations system staff were decorated by the Government. At the request of the Secretary-General, UNDP has assumed responsibilities in Cambodia, with the completion of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) mandate, for providing and channelling international assistance in capacity-building for demining operations.

C. Regional Bureau for Arab States

42. Country programmes. The programming process for the fifth cycle was practically finalized during 1993. Country programmes were approved by the Governing Council for all countries except Iraq, Oman and Somalia. The situation prevailing in Iraq and Somalia did not allow the development of country programmes. In its decisions 93/4 and 93/20 the Council took note of the intention of the Administrator to continue to approve projects in both these countries on a case-by-case basis. All the net contributor countries in the Arab States region - except for Oman, where a decision was taken not to develop a UNDP country programme - followed Council decision 91/29 and programmed at the level of $10 million and above. The programming trend in the country programmes in the region continued, with a substantial part of the technical cooperation directed at support to macro-economic reforms, economic policy development, economic and social development and administrative reform. Social policy and concern about the level of human development - especially in countries going through transition and experiencing negative social effects of economic adjustment - were highlighted in several country programmes. Environment and natural resources management constituted another common feature of the programmes. Human resources development was the most common modality chosen for national capacity-building.

43. Regional programme. The regional programme for the Arab States region was developed during 1993 and its content was approved by the intergovernmental meeting held in Sanaa in December 1993. The programme incorporates the recommendations of the mid-term review of the second regional programme (1988-1993) as well as conclusions and recommendations of the regional seminars on domestic energy policies and management (December 1992), human development (Amman, April 1993) and technical cooperation for the development of Arab trade (Abu Dhabi, April 1993). Accordingly, the regional programme envisages launching three main new programmes: (a) sustainable human development, which will include, inter alia, the annual publication of the regional human development report and will be geared towards the sensitization of policy and decision makers on the need to incorporate human development issues and concerns in development planning and resources allocation; (b) economic integration and trade, with the objective of improving the overall capacity in the region for expansion of intra-Arab trade within the framework of economic integration; and (c) sustainable energy, whose goal will be to optimize energy utilization in the Arab region in an environmentally sustainable manner. Data gathering and dissemination, development of policies, providing forums for regional debates and cooperation, strengthening the capacity of institutions and the development of human resources will be widely used in the implementation of these programmes. Many projects will be implemented by the Arab regional organizations and institutions. Some of them, e.g., the Arab Gulf Programme for

United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND), will provide substantial financial contribution to the programme. The programme will also embrace cooperation with the Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (Gaza and the West Bank). It will actively seek links with country programmes, and in this process will use the modality of decentralization of its operational management to the field.

44. Somalia. The situation in Somalia continued to pose a most difficult challenge to the whole international community, including UNDP. A two-pronged strategy was followed by UNDP in this country: in the more peaceful northern regions of Somalia, support was offered to community-based small-scale programmes, enhancing capacity-building and human development; close cooperation was maintained with the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) humanitarian programme and with the World Bank effort to develop a medium-term rehabilitation plan for Somalia. Boroma, Burao and Bosaso benefited from the community-based area development programme. Agricultural rehabilitation and sanitation was supported in the Lower Shabelle region. Thanks to the UNDP project, drinking water production in Mogadishu reached pre-war levels by May 1993. Rehabilitation of the airport and the sea port in Mogadishu was financed by UNDP with the intention of expanding assistance to other airports and sea ports in the country. A programme for demobilization and reintegration of the demobilized militia was developed in the north-west.

45. Area development schemes. The area development schemes (ADS) programme continued to be successfully implemented in five northern states in the Sudan, and plans were under way to extend it to the south of the country. The programme, together with associated activities, constitutes a cluster of projects absorbing some 60 per cent of UNDP resources in the country during the present cycle. More importantly, however, it constitutes an innovative, successful, grass-roots developmental operation in the region. Its basic philosophy has been applied to the development of the rehabilitation programme in the north of Somalia. Its success draws the attention of other countries in the Horn of Africa region and opens possibilities of its broader application. The programme is based on the active participation of the primary beneficiaries in the developmental planning and implementation of projects in their communities. This approach also allows UNDP to introduce the full spectrum of policy considerations into its programmes, e.g., environmental sustainability and the enhanced participation of women in development. The Government of Sudan adopted ADS as a modality of choice in the implementation of parts of the national developmental plan. The ADS areas concentrate on national investment as well as the assistance of other United Nations funds and agencies.

46. Economic transition and sustainable human development. In 1993, these areas continued to provide the most interesting examples of imaginative programming and project implementation in the Arab States region. In Egypt, UNDP continued to play an active role in supporting the Government in implementing its programme of economic reform. UNDP supported the establishment of a number of important developmental programmes and key technical secretariats, which, on the one hand, constitute a part of the structural adjustment programme, and, on the other, strengthen the national capacity to implement, evaluate and monitor this programme in its various aspects. These include the Social Fund for Development, the Economic Reform Programme, the

Public Enterprises Office and the Secretariat for Public Sector Reform. In Kuwait, UNDP - through the Management Development Programme - is engaged in assistance to the Administrative Development Sector - an organizational unit established to formulate and lead the implementation of administrative reforms in all sectors of government operations. The project is nationally executed. It has focused on strengthening the capacity of the ADS to provide in-country leadership and technical skills to other governmental units in the execution of the administrative reforms. In Algeria, UNDP focused on support to policy development and - in cooperation with the UNIDO Transitional Cooperation and Management Division (TCMD) and the Foreign Investment Advisory Division (FIAS) of the World Bank - mobilized the resources and expertise needed to draw up a new investment code with the aim of promoting private domestic and foreign investments. In Lebanon, UNDP financed extensive work leading to the preparation of the Programme of Administrative Rehabilitation. The Government of Tunisia co-sponsored with UNDP in June 1993 the Round Table on Human Development, which confirmed its support to the concept of sustainable human development as a guiding principle in economic and social development in Tunisia. Also with the same aim of strengthening the human aspects of development, the International Workshop of National Institutions for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights was held in Tunis in December 1993, attended by the representatives of governmental and non-governmental institutions from 15 countries. Protection of the handicapped, protection of children from exploitation, securing the rights of women, strict observation of the rights of migrants, as per the international conventions and agreements, constituted the main focus of this workshop. Morocco and Lebanon launched programmes aimed at support to the government policy of eliminating drug production. The efforts of Governments to combat the HIV epidemic were supported in Djibouti and Morocco.

47. National execution. This modality was designated for approximately 36 per cent of budgets approved in the region. This steadily growing trend of giving the responsibility for supervision of programmes and projects of technical cooperation to well-qualified national institutions was strongly visible in the implementation of both the country and regional programmes. The same sense of shared responsibility was manifested by the tendency of many Governments in the region to co-finance UNDP programmes of technical cooperation, as a means of supplementing the decreasing IPF resources.

D. Division for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States

48. Expansion of UNDP country offices. In addition to the 12 country offices established in the region either before or during 1992, seven new offices opened during 1993 and two in early 1994. This covers all planned country offices in the region with the exception of Russia.

49. Wide area network (WAN). The donor-funded satellite-based communications network is now operational in 7 of 11 countries of the region. A proposal for donor funding to extend the system to additional countries of the region has been prepared. Once established in each UNDP country office, the WAN will increasingly be placed at the disposal of other users, such as government aid

coordination agencies, parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the media. The network also has great potential for providing such services as access to United Nations specialized agency databases on a multitude of topics.

50. Transition. Major issues related to economic and societal transition, including transition to a market economy, privatization, democracy and governance and the social impact of transition were the focus of a workshop held in cooperation with the East-West Economic Academy. The workshop was attended by all Resident Representatives from the region as well as by several Resident Representatives from other regions facing similar transitional problems. A series of recommendations that constitute broad guidelines for action by UNDP in these thematic areas was adopted.

51. UNDP/International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) initiative. UNDP and IAEA launched a joint initiative in Vienna at a ministerial-level forum in May 1993 to strengthen nuclear safety and radiation protection infrastructures in the Commonwealth of Independent States. Based on the findings of the forum, UNDP and IAEA began preparing a large-scale programme involving all concerned United Nations specialized agencies and interested donors to cover all sectors affected by problems of nuclear safety, linking technical cooperation and capital assistance. Another important aspect to be addressed is to build up national capacity in managing a system for radiation protection that will facilitate the provision of assistance and the mobilization of the required financial resources and to build public awareness to ensure the success of the programme in the context of countries in transition. This initiative has received a very positive response from the donor community and from the media in Western Europe and the United States.

52. NATCAPs and donor consultations. Two regional programmes were approved for the launching of NATCAP exercises and preparing sectoral donor consultations in nine countries of the region. The programmes are closely linked to national projects focused on providing assistance to capacity-building for the effective mobilization and management of external resources. United Nations inter-agency missions led by UNDP have already visited Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan in preparation for donor meetings on the social sector reforms in these countries and the NATCAP exercise was successfully launched in Albania.

53. Umbrella projects. Umbrella projects covering the Transfer of Knowledge through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN), UNV and the United Nations Short-Term Advisory Resources (UNISTAR) modalities, were established region-wide as the most efficient and cost-effective way to respond promptly to constantly evolving transitional needs. Armenia, Azerbaijan and Kyrgyzstan had their first UNV specialists arrive to assist the reform process of key sectoral and functional ministries and that of the central banks. The vast experience of the Polish umbrella project was often used in guiding the establishment of similar facilities in the region.

54. Consultative groups. Following the recommendations of the 1992 Tokyo meeting on Assistance to Newly Independent States, the Consultative Group process gained momentum in most of the former Soviet Union. An exemplary trend of cooperation between UNDP, on behalf of the United Nations system, and the

World Bank was set by the launching of joint missions and preparation of consultative group meetings both in European capitals and in country. UNDP was entrusted with preparing presentations of technical cooperation requirements for the meetings.

55. Capacity-building for aid management. Support for the building of national capacity for external resource management was considered a top priority for UNDP activities in the region. External resource management agencies were designed and established in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan with the joint assistance of UNDP and the World Bank. Initial training of government officials involved in the aid management process was carried out by several country offices. In Belarus, UNDP supported the Government in designing its aid management mechanism and presenting it to a Consultative Group meeting, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) will provide funding for a long-term senior adviser to work in the unit.

56. Regional programme trends. A number of integrated regional programmes, based on an intersectoral, inter-agency, multidonor, synergistic approach were designed and/or launched during 1993, covering areas such as local economic development, inter-modal transport information systems, economic and social statistics and human development data, inter-republic trade, water and civil society and the strengthening of the ministries of Foreign Affairs. Regional execution modalities have been adopted in most of the cases and many of the projects have been developed by UNDP in partnership with United Nations agencies, NGOs, regional organizations and institutions such as the Board of Chambers of Commerce as well as interested bilateral donors.

57. Democratization and governance. UNDP has launched a new initiative to provide a framework for support of projects in the field of democratization, improved governance and strengthened local participation in the countries in transition in the region. This programme is based on joint endeavours initiated by UNDP but led by participating countries and with a substantive participation of external partners, including bilateral donors and international and regional institutions and organizations.

58. Environment and energy. The two major approved GEF programmes in the region are proceeding into new phases with the operationalization of the environmental management aspects. The project document for the Black Sea programme was signed by all participating countries and the Programme Coordination Unit has opened in Istanbul. Planning has been completed for a workshop on bio-diversity and the first inter-agency agreement with the World Health Organization (WHO) has been signed. The work plan of the Danube River Basin programme has been completed and work on a Strategic Action Plan involving the participating countries is under way, setting the stage for national consultations under the auspices of the respective UNDP country offices and paving the way for improving NGO networking through a small-grant window within the programme. Planning has begun on an Energy Efficiency 2000 joint UNDP/United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) initiative, which has been well received by participating countries and by bilateral donors who, it is expected, will co-finance the programme.

59. Human development. A comprehensive human development programme was launched in Ukraine in May, with the aim of providing decision-making bodies with a clearer view of the objectives and constraints of human development in Ukraine. Detailed studies were produced on specific problems and a number of coordinated projects were launched, covering areas such as social protection and labour policies, AIDS prevention and the reduction of abortions. Sources of financing include IPF, SPR, TSS-1 and third-party cost-sharing. Other human development initiatives were launched in the Baltics and Uzbekistan. Turkey expanded its ongoing innovative human development programme by incorporating the sustainability element into its in-depth assessment of the situation in all regions of the country.

60. Social sector development. A successful inter-agency cooperation modality was pioneered in this sector by combining United Nations, UNDP and other agency personnel together with World Bank experts on integrated missions to a number of countries (e.g., Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova), where the World Bank considered social sector loans. This is encouraging a much more coordinated approach to the formulation of World Bank loans and technical cooperation programmes. Another successful form of coordination was the programme approach adopted by Poland for technical cooperation in the social sector, under Government coordination, facilitated by UNDP.

61. Humanitarian assistance. The region had to deal with an exceptional load of emergencies in 1993: former Yugoslavia, countries in the Caucasus, Tajikistan, as well as the Turkish involvement in northern Iraq relief operations, and natural disasters in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus and Ukraine. UNDP participated in the United Nations consolidated appeals for Armenia, Azerbaijan and former Yugoslavia with project proposals related to rehabilitation and reconstruction. UNDP carried out a number of activities related to humanitarian assistance and reconstruction in the former Yugoslavia, including a major initiative together with the United Nations Office at Vienna, to assist the communities of some United Nations-protected areas in Croatia in the reconstruction of their villages and in community reconciliation.

62. Donor relations and resource mobilization. In 1993, UNDP introduced a strategy for donor relations and resource mobilization aimed at increasing the partnership and cooperation of UNDP with other multilateral or bilateral agencies as well as with United Nations agencies in assisting countries in transition. Cooperation agreements have been developed with the European Union, EBRD, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) with the aim of ensuring coordination and complementarity of assistance to Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States. Resources are being mobilized on the basis of concrete products jointly formulated with countries of the region and multilateral and bilateral donors participating in UNDP programmes. Advocacy, active negotiations and open information with donors represent the key elements of this strategy. Contributions to trust funds and cost-sharing of programmes have been obtained from Austria, Finland, France, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, United States and the European Union. Examples of programmes that have attracted substantial contributions are: capacity-building for aid management, privatization, development of small and medium-size enterprises, emergency assistance and management development.

E. Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

63. In 1993, the Latin American and Caribbean countries registered progress in their macro-economic indicators and there was growing evidence that open-market economies provided the necessary thrust to improve prospects for peace and democracy. With the unfortunate exception of Haiti and a degree of hesitation in Nicaragua, civil society not only prevails but is being strengthened in the region.

64. However, macroeconomic reform in the region should contribute to generate employment and ensure more equitable income distribution patterns. Growth must benefit all levels of society in order to promote development. In fact there is a growing realization in Latin America and the Caribbean that economic reform and growth cannot be accomplished without social reform.

65. As an important part of the continuing UNDP agenda in the region, social reform and its main issue, poverty, were addressed by the Forum on Social Reform and Poverty, jointly organized with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in February, and attended by high-level representations of Government officials, academics, specialists, representatives of civil society and of international organizations. The Forum produced a widely disseminated document covering the wide-ranging discussions on the experiences, policies and investments conducive to the alleviation and reduction of poverty. At the same time, joint IDB/UNDP meetings were held in several countries to define social reform policies and specific programmes to be financed by the Bank with the execution of technical cooperation elements by UNDP.

66. The second item on the UNDP agenda refers to governance and the UNDP capacity to exercise leadership, because of its neutrality, in defining relations between the various segments of society, including among others, the state and civil society. These activities are carried out at the national, subregional and regional levels.

67. A central theme in governance constitutes the third item and refers to the need for state reform and the guarantees that should be offered to citizens affected by the privatization process; here, UNDP provides services to facilitate equal opportunities in health and education. UNDP support also continues to strengthen municipal and provincial Governments faced with the responsibilities produced by the move towards decentralization.

68. The fourth item is environment and development, where the Latin American and Caribbean Commission on Development and the Environment was again convoked to evaluate the implications of Agenda 21 for the region. Work has also continued on the preparation of projects for the GEF, allowing the region to absorb 25 per cent of these resources.

69. In addition, UNDP has prepared an Agenda for Peace and Human Development in order to define the various phases in the peace process from preventive diplomacy to the consolidation of peace. This may be achieved through large-scale peace and humanitarian operations undertaken simultaneously, as for example in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

70. These programme items included in the regional agenda constitute the basis for UNDP advocacy in sustainable human development, which has been well received in many countries, and many of the country and regional-level activities reflect one or more of the items of the regional agenda. For example, UNDP-supported activities at the national level on social reform and poverty alleviation were most evident in Argentina, where the Government launched three new projects with its own financial contribution and those of the World Bank and IDB: the first of these addresses the modernization of the public health system through the strengthening of health service delivery capacities in the provinces; the second project helps to ameliorate the effects of state reform and privatization by designing and implementing a labour reconversion programme, which will include training for self-employment and small businesses and advice to former public-sector employees; the third project refers to the need for efficient and comprehensive health services for mothers and children in disadvantaged areas of the seven provinces with the lowest health and nutrition indicators in the country. Colombia has also channelled a large share of its IPF and cost-sharing funds to improve health and education conditions of the population through the decentralization of services and the targeting of social expenditures in the municipalities of five departments. The preceding initiatives have well-defined decentralization and institutional modernization objectives and thus are also related to the third item of the Agenda on state reform.

71. Activities on social reform and poverty alleviation were also continued in Chile, Mexico, Peru and Central America, and range from PADERE, the regional development facility with poverty alleviation components, in Chile, to the social compensation and investment funds in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Furthermore, within the framework of the Special Plan of Economic Cooperation for Central America (PEC), these countries and Panama participate in the regional visit for technical assistance (RUTA) project that addresses poverty alleviation through support for policy formulation and project design, execution and evaluation in education, primary health care and nutrition. The project is executed by the World Bank and financed by the Government of Japan, IDB and UNDP.

72. At the regional level, a workshop was held in La Paz through the auspices of the Bolivian authorities, the National Confederation of NGO Networks and UNDP in order to improve the extent to which anti-poverty initiatives are mainstreamed in national development policies. The workshop follows from the IDB/UNDP Forum on Social Reform and Poverty, which addressed the need for a better link between social and economic policies in the interest of more effective development strategies.

73. Ecuador has addressed the item of governance and the consolidation of democracy through an education programme on human rights for the armed forces, which aims at furthering the dialogue between civil society and the military establishment. Panama also requested UNDP assistance in the organization of a national meeting on Unity and Human Development to build a broad consensus among all social spheres on pressing national issues; the resulting Bambito Declaration stipulates that national unity, conciliation and constructive dialogue are central to the solution of priority national issues. Thirdly and in preparation for the 1994 Presidential elections in the Dominican Republic, the authorities requested UNDP to assist in launching the National Consultation

on Strategic Development Challenges by identifying alternative policy options on which consensus can be reached among political leaders; the four areas selected were social reform, public sector reform, the external sector and the restructuring of the agricultural and industrial sectors.

74. Although UNDP has usually helped to strengthen the democratic process by contributing to the reform of the executive branch of Government and the modernization of the productive sectors, two initiatives in Peru and Uruguay are showing that the modernization of the legislative and judicial structures is necessary to provide a firmer basis for democracy. In the same way, support for the electoral processes in Argentina and Paraguay has had beneficial effects. In Peru, UNDP has helped to create the conditions necessary to re-establish the country's rating on the international credit markets and, with specific reference to state reform, is supporting the Government in an ambitious national privatization programme that will reduce the state apparatus and abolish subsidies to inefficient state enterprises. In Brazil, UNDP has assisted in the creation of an enabling environment for the production of computer software which will help the country become a global trader in this field and aim for a share of between 1 and 2 per cent of the international market by the year 2000.

75. Colombia has addressed the need to empower indigenous communities affected by armed conflict, poverty and a lack of social services by creating management capacities among the leaders of these communities through training in planning, administration and leadership; the UNDP project covers 47 per cent of the indigenous population in the rural areas and builds on the success of three revolving capital funds established by the World Food Programme (WFP). Uruguay launched two initiatives under this item: the first refers to the need to improve the availability and administration of the tax revenue in the municipalities by strengthening the managerial capacities in the 18 municipalities and in the Municipal Development Directorate; the second refers to the country's participation in MERCOSUR and addresses the need to strengthen the coordination and information functions of the Sectoral Commission COMISEC, as well as the restructuring of the labour market and promoting the capacities of small and medium sized enterprises.

76. The benefits of the UNDP-supported project on the restructuring of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) have begun to register and the institution has now become an effective subregional development bank with a growing portfolio of investments promoting integration.

77. Following the initiative to establish an Association of Caribbean States, CARICOM Governments hosted a summit meeting with the Presidents of Colombia, Mexico, Suriname and Venezuela, to explore alternatives for the strengthening of political, social, economic and cultural ties. An action plan for cooperation in these fields was agreed to.

78. At the regional level, the Valparaiso Report "A Government for Human Development" was published and disseminated; the report summarizes the recommendations of a meeting of young political leaders in Chile, in which a call was made for a break with the past and a new approach to Government based on the primacy of consensus over confrontation; progress was also made on the establishment and maintenance of a regional network of interested parties in

promoting policies and programmes for governance and human development, and on a new series of reports on the state of the art of governance for human development in the region.

79. To ensure that the development initiatives and growth tendencies in the region are sustainable and environmentally sound, the environment continued to receive UNDP attention in 1993. In this respect, the growth in the portfolio of projects financed from the GEF is noteworthy: to date, 18 projects have been approved for a total of some $60 million.

80. An important decision to conserve the richest wetland complex in the subtropical part of the continent was taken by Uruguay in the GEF-funded project that will develop and carry out a comprehensive management programme. Among other activities, the project will help to prepare proposals for policies, laws and regulations to ensure biodiversity conservation in the wetland.

81. Central America proceeded to adopt and implement "Our Own - Central American - Agenda" through UNDP and IDB support to the subregion's Secretariat to the Commission for Environment and Development and support for the Tropical Forestry Action Plan. Activities at the national level have been initiated in all countries, GEF projects have been approved in Belize and Costa Rica and Capacity 21 is financing a project in Honduras. Additionally, Costa Rica is implementing the first Central American programme under the Montreal Protocol.

82. UNDP has also been supporting the preparatory stages of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which will be held in Barbados in 1994. The GEF presence in the Caribbean is evidenced by the continuing support for the Iwokrama Rain Forest Programme in Guyana, which, among other activities, includes plans for an international training centre, a wilderness preserve and an environmental communications centre.

83. UNDP attention at the regional level was directed towards providing support for the implementation of agreements reached at UNCED. In coordination with IDB, a document entitled "Building our Future: Capacity-Building for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" was prepared as follow-up to the report "Our Own Agenda".

84. The Brazilian Foundation for Sustainable Development and UNDP organized a regional workshop in Rio de Janeiro with the aim of providing a better understanding of the concept of incremental costs as implied in the Rio Conventions. Also, UNDP and IDB have agreed to strengthen their cooperative efforts towards the establishment of the Latin American and Caribbean Commission on Development and Environment as a permanent body to monitor the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Conventions on Biodiversity and Climate Change; they have also agreed to strive for a stronger voice for the developing countries of the region in the ongoing environmental dialogue in the hemisphere.

F. Division for Global and Interregional Programmes

85. The global and interregional programmes help developing countries to benefit from international scientific knowledge, research and experience while enhancing their own national capacities. Addressing the HIV epidemic as a multisectoral development issue and meeting the sudden, widespread demand for electoral assistance are but two recent examples of the ability of the Division for Global and Interregional Programmes (DGIP) to respond in an innovative manner to unforseen development challenges.

86. Cooperation in research. DGIP investments in high-risk/high-reward activities have achieved breakthroughs in a number of fields vital to developing countries. Its investments also attract complementary funding from bilateral development agencies, charitable foundations, institutes, other United Nations agencies, development banks, NGOs and the private sector, and provide cost-effective co-funding opportunities for other parts of UNDP. The UNDP/World Bank Water and Sanitation Programme, an interregional activity, was launched in 1978, initially receiving seed money of less than $1 million a year, coming almost entirely from DGIP. The Programme now invests approximately $15 million a year to bring safe water and sanitation to developing countries, with over 75 per cent of the funds coming from bilateral donors, the World Bank and UNDP regional and country programmes. The same applies to the UNDP/Habitat/World Bank Urban Management Programme. In another case, UNDP was one of the three co-sponsors of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) in 1971. Today, 41 public and private sector donors contribute more than $250 million a year in support of 18 member research institutes that are helping to produce more and lower-priced food on a sustainable basis for the poorest of the poor. The global programme supports international research in areas critical to human development such as health, the environment and food production. It underwrites research and development programmes such as the Children's Vaccine Initiative, which is developing single-dose vaccines that can protect against a broad spectrum of childhood diseases. Non-governmental agricultural research institutes supported by the global programme have developed and shared improved strains of rice, potatoes, fish and other foods vital to the nutritional needs of developing countries. The programme is also helping establish networks to study and monitor global environmental concerns, including global warming, implications of climate change and the conservation of international marine resources. The interregional programme promotes the sharing of knowledge and applied research on a host of issues critical to development. Information exchanges and data banks supported by the interregional programme involve the environment, including water and waste management, primary health care, education, coastal area management, urban management, privatization, debt management, trade and energy.

87. Environmental activities. The GEF, jointly managed by UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Bank, addresses global environmental issues that transcend national borders. By the end of 1993, DGIP was undertaking six GEF projects valued at $20.4 million. This represents about 10 per cent of all GEF-UNDP projects. DGIP is undertaking a $4.8 million programme to establish monitoring stations in Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, China, Indonesia and Kenya to measure background concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, tropospheric ozone and long-lived chlorofluorocarbons in

the atmosphere. The Governments involved have formally agreed to support and continue to operate the stations, which will enhance their capacity to participate in the debate on global warming and involve them in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. China has already completed construction of its monitoring station in rough mountain terrain in the West-Central part of the country far from inhabited areas. In the Philippines, the CGIAR-affiliated International Rice Research Institute is conducting a $5 million programme to test and analyse the emissions of methane gas from rice fields, which are a major source of this greenhouse gas. Another GEF-funded project is helping the International Ocean Institute, a Malta-based NGO, to establish four regional centres to train managers and civil servants from developing countries in integrated ocean and coastal management. The $2.6 million project is supporting the establishment of centres in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania. These centres will help develop experts in each region to deal with such ocean area issues as the responsible use of the 200-mile exclusive economic zones, tourism, controlling urban pollution, shipping and fisheries. By building national capacities, the centres are enabling developing countries to participate as equal partners in the new field of ocean and coastal management.

88. Sustainable development network (SDN). In 1993, UNDP increased its support to SDN by $1 million, providing funds for training, computer equipment, software and information packages to national and regional SDNs. Seven national SDNs were in operation at year end. By the end of 1994, it is expected that 18 projects serving some 40 Governments will be in operation. The importance of being able to tap into an international pool of knowledge was demonstrated when the Pakistan SDN sought help to deal with an unfamiliar toxic waste and was able to incinerate it under careful supervision. Advice was received from over 50 sources, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency and experts in Brazil and New Zealand.

89. Sustainable agricultural development. Through the CGIAR, the Division supports high-priority agricultural research to create and disseminate high-yielding, disease- and pest-resistant food products. These research efforts provide increased food at more affordable prices for the world's poor while safeguarding the environment. One research institute, the International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM) in the Philippines, developed a breed of tilapia that grows 60 per cent faster than conventional breeds. DGIP is also funding a $4.6 million project to reduce the use of costly and dangerous pesticides in potato farming. It will help another CGIAR research institute, the International Potato Centre in Peru, to develop, through genetic manipulation, new breeds of potato capable of withstanding pests and diseases without the use of pesticides. Potato farmers in 94 developing countries around the world now spend an average of about 20 per cent of all production costs on pesticides, many of which contain chemicals dangerous to human, plant and animal life. The project is expected to increase production of this important staple while improving the environment.

90. The HIV and Development programme. During 1993, the UNDP contribution to the global response to the epidemic continued to be in assisting countries to understand better the interdependent relationships between development and the HIV epidemic and to strengthen understanding of its potential psychological, social and economic causes and consequences.

91. In this context, UNDP played an important role in strengthening other specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to respond to the epidemic, by providing for example, support to FAO and the International Labour Organization (ILO) to strengthen their capacity to address the implications of the epidemic on agriculture and labour. Numerous joint activities were initiated in 1993 with the World Health Organization (WHO) but also between UNDP and UNICEF, international financing institutions, including the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, research institutions, NGOs and CBOs. Activities include advocacy, training workshops, the preparation of issues papers, seminars, the development and field testing of multisectoral planning tools and participatory and community-based monitoring, documentation, evaluation and programme development approaches.

92. In 1993, UNDP also sought to strengthen national capacity to undertake action-oriented research and studies on the extent and nature of the psychological, social and economic causes and consequences of the HIV epidemic and to link research more actively to policy and programme development. Participating countries include Central African Republic, Kenya, Senegal and Zambia. UNDP is facilitating the establishment of networks on law, ethics and human rights and HIV in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean to strengthen the capacity of countries to provide an appropriate ethical and legal response to the epidemic.

III. SPECIAL PROGRAMME RESOURCES

93. In line with the Governing Council decision 92/7, expenditures on SPR activities approved by the Council were grouped by type of activity, as indicated below.

94. Disaster mitigation. Under this category, assistance was targeted towards support for coordination activities, with special focus on activities not covered by the mandate of other United Nations agencies. Allocations focused on vulnerability reduction initiatives through capacity-building for disaster preparedness and management, multisectoral needs assessments for the internally displaced, refugees and returnees and the provision of short-term support to resident coordinators to enhance the field-level coordination of emergency-phase assistance provided by the United Nations system. The thrust of the programmes consisted of capacity-building of specialist national disaster-management institutions, which included extensive national and regional disaster-management training programmes, the result of which was improved partnerships between development policy-makers and disaster specialists at the country level on the one hand, and planning and sectoral-based institutions on the other. Also, results from intranational dialogue linking disaster and development have revealed that vulnerability reduction initiatives are clearly linked to overall disaster-mitigation programming.

95. Thematic activities. The principal objective of the thematic activities is the mainstreaming of the six areas of focus of Governing Council decision 90/34 through the catalytic financing of development in these areas. In the Gambia and Rwanda, poverty-assessment profiles were prepared following policy dialogues with participants from the Government, NGOs, CBOs and the donor community,

culminating in substantial input into their respective national poverty-eradication action plans. Similarly, the Partners-in-Development Programme has made significant contributions towards promoting dialogue between NGOs, Governments and donors as well as supporting community-based income generating and self-help initiatives. Other initiatives include the Local Initiative Facility for Urban Life Environment (LIFE) programme's multisectoral approach of concurrently mainstreaming concerns of poverty alleviation and environment as well as the Capacity 21 programme, which assists Governments in translating Agenda 21 into national action plans. In Guinea and Albania, assistance has been provided for the establishment of gender-disaggregated statistics to assist as a planning tool in evaluating and incorporating the gender dimension in national development initiatives. At this stage, it is possible to discern significant results in the mainstreaming of some thematic areas in development projects and in the considerable resources mobilized through national, bilateral and multilateral sources as a result of SPR seed funding.

96. Other special and/or new activities. Several activities have taken concrete action towards the objectives of this category. For example, the publication of the Human Development Report 1993 assisted in bringing to the forefront the discourse of human development concerns on development policy, both at the national and international levels, whereby several countries have subsequently designed national human development strategies adopted from the global messages of the HDR. The Special Plan of Economic Cooperation to Central America has contributed significantly to the peace process in the region through consensus-building at various levels, capacity-building of national and regional integration institutions, efforts to support the re-integration of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and effective resource mobilization towards the Central American Governments' efforts to seek peace with development. In Africa, case-studies were designed to establish, analyse and replicate partnerships of poverty alleviation among NGOs and other organizations of civil society and local/national Governments, multilateral and bilateral institutions.

97. Aid coordination. The objectives under this category are to support efforts aimed at advancing more effective programming and to assist in the preparation of donor consultation meetings. Activities approved were consistent with these objectives and contributed to round-table and aid-coordination meetings in 21 countries world wide.

98. Programme development. The objective of this category is to strengthen UNDP capacity to develop and implement effective technical cooperation programmes. Three subcategories target programme development, evaluation, and new or innovative programme research. Innovative rural-income generation and horticulture-export projects are currently under implementation in Thailand and Bolivia following the provision of technical appraisal missions for project proposals early in their formulation stage. A comprehensive review exercise of current UNDP evaluation procedures has resulted in the initiation of a more streamlined revision of programme evaluation, monitoring and reporting systems. Support has been provided for a global study linking the interaction between macroeconomic policies and the growth of productive employment. The study reviews the effects of major economic policy decisions in fiscal, industrial and trade policies on the structure and growth of employment, the results of which

will be presented to the Preparatory Committee established for the World Summit for Social Development in 1995.

IV. FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

A. United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

99. UNCDF launched its new programme approach, which emphasizes partnership with local governments and institutions (including grass-roots groups, small private entrepreneurs and NGOs) and geographical concentration in the provision of infrastructure, micro-credit and local development funds. In support of decentralization policies now being initiated by many programme countries, UNCDF has launched a number of programmes that channel resources directly to local governing bodies while promoting modern project management and contracting practices, thereby strengthening implementation capacity and increasing administrative transparency and accountability at the local government level. UNCDF has also introduced methodologies that empower local communities with decision-making authority at all stages of the project planning and implementation process, and engage them in the management of their natural resources in the context of a long-term poverty reduction strategy.

100. The approach is embodied in recently approved programmes in Mauritania and Guinea, and in a programme in Mali to be presented for approval in early 1994. These new initiatives incorporate the lessons and recommendations drawn from UNCDF Thematic Review on Participatory Eco-Development, which has been published in book form in French and will appear in English version to follow in mid-1994. In addition, ongoing rural development projects in Laos and Viet Nam are simultaneously focusing on increasing local government and community capacity to manage small-scale infrastructure projects and to promote sustainability as defined by local contexts and conditions. The findings of regular technical review missions have pointed to the initial success of these projects, exemplified by an unusually high implementation rate and active commitment to project activities by the local population.

101. The UNCDF environmental guidelines (drafted with support from a Norwegian Government trust fund) are now being used in all ongoing project formulations and evaluations. New projects in Mali, Mauritania, Guinea and Bhutan, for example, systematically address environmental considerations. Also under Norwegian funding, additional UNCDF staff participated in United Kingdom-based specialized training in environmental impact assessment in June. UNCDF is currently in the process of developing operational methodologies and guidelines related to the components of its new programming approach (including the establishment of local development funds, micro-credit investments and decentralized infrastructure management). A seminar on participation and decentralization to familiarize staff with current methodological techniques took place in October.

102. In order to adjust to UNDP-wide resource constraints, efforts have been made for the systematic closure of all completed projects, with savings normally reverting to general resources. A comprehensive review of the pipeline for new projects has led to its reduction by approximately 32 per cent in the coming two

to four years. In addition, two Professional and five General Service posts have been frozen.

103. At the same time, the Fund has been exploring new avenues for resource mobilization, including the establishment of regional trust funds and increased contact with foundations and associations of local authorities such as the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA), with whom negotiations were initiated regarding coverage of formulation cost and possible funding of specific components for projects in Tanzania and Zambia. Closer cooperation with multilateral organizations led to the co-financing of a housing project with the World Bank in Chad and of a seed production project with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Mauritania. It is important to note, however, that while more extensive collaboration has enhanced programme quality, these initiatives cannot be relied upon to substitute for core contributions in enabling UNCDF to fulfil its mandate.

B. United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration (UNRFNRE)

104. In 1993, a gold deposit was discovered in Tanzania with UNRFNRE support. The analysis of trench samples resulted in gold values averaging 8 g/t. An initial drilling programme was designed to confirm these gold grades at depth.

105. The chromite exploration project in the Philippines was completed during the year and the Final Report was in preparation. Replenishment payments from this discovery continued. A gold exploration area was added to the project in 1993.

106. Several requests for UNRFNRE assistance were received from developing countries; however, owing to the inadequate level of financial reserves, UNRFNRE was not able to respond favourably.

C. United Nations Fund for Science and Technology Development (UNFSTD)

107. In 1993, the UNFSTD Endogenous Capacity-Building Programme in Science and Technology reached full speed with the organization of a second group of policy dialogues among stakeholders in Cape Verde, Jamaica, Pakistan, Uganda and Viet Nam. This programme is driven by national expertise, using exclusively national consultants. It tries to improve the national decision-making process in science and technology. An important tool for this process is technology assessment. For this purpose, a workshop was organized in Shanghai involving 12 Asian countries.

108. The pilot technology incubator scheme has now come to a conclusion and guidelines have been prepared based on its assessment. The other two lead programmes of UNFSTD - Maintenance and Repair of Scientific Instruments and Referral Services in Science and Technology for Journalists - continued their activities in Asia.

109. Poverty alleviation is being addressed by the Financing Energy Services for Small-scale Energy-users (FINESSE) programme, which expanded last year from Asia to Southern Africa. It is a collaborative effort with the World Bank, the United States Department of Energy and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Its target group is the rural poor and its emphasis is on new and renewable sources of energy and energy conservation.

110. The programme, Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN), which is managed by UNFSTD, increased the number of beneficiary countries in 1993 from 33 to 39 and carried out over 400 consultancies.

111. Although UNFSTD continues to receive core contributions from a relatively large number of developing countries, the funding situation remains unsatisfactory.

D. United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO)

112. UNSO activities in desertification control aimed to assist the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region to lift the constraints that drought and desertification impose on their sustainable development and to alleviate the poverty of their rural peoples. The ongoing programme activities, worth approximately $60 million, are articulated around five broad themes: ensuring national capacities in environmental planning as the strategic framework for local-level action; the development of local-level capacities in natural resources management; environmental information systems; catalytic activities in advocacy, coordination and information; and supporting the negotiation process for an international convention to combat desertification.

113. During 1993, UNSO continued to support drought and desertification strategy development and implementation and its integration in the national development planning process. Of the 17 Sudano-Sahelian countries where such activities are under way, frameworks have been adopted by the Governments of Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Mali and Mauritania and are in different stages of preparation in others.

114. UNSO continued to support activities in local-level natural resources management, building on traditional land-use systems and aiming for the decentralization of resources management to the land users. Projects in Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal were directed to village farmlands and in Sudan to pastoral land management. UNSO further refined its approach in this area through workshops held late in 1993, in Mali, Tanzania, and France, which provided new perspectives and techniques in pastoral management for participants, and the basis for further programme initiatives and development for UNSO/UNDP.

115. As a result of assessments of national needs in environmental information systems (EIS), programmes were formulated in six countries: Chad, Gambia, Mali, Niger, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. UNSO support to regional EIS activities included UNSO/UNITAR EIS training programmes in the permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) subregion and UNSO/Observatory of Sahara and Sahel/the United Nations Institute for Training

and Research sponsored launching of the regional technical support network AFRICA Geographic Information System (GIS).

116. UNSO actively supported the ongoing negotiation process of an international convention on desertification that should provide the framework for a new impetus and funding for desertification control activities. This included financial and technical cooperation to facilitate the identification of national and subregional issues and the negotiation of a common African contribution to the convention content. Such support was also provided for national case-studies on desertification for Uganda and Mali and to the broader ones for the Intergovernmental Action for Drought and Development (IGADD) and CILSS subregions, which will provide an input to the convention.

117. Technical and substantial support to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an International Convention on Desertification (INC-D) secretariat included participation in the International Panel of Experts in Desertification/ Inter-Agency Core Group and technical studies and reports; in particular, two background documents on capacity-building and the role of planning systems in desertification control, were prepared for the first INC-D negotiating session.

118. Various catalytic activities served to raise awareness on desertification at all levels and to pave the way for future action. In this context, concept methodologies were developed for a new programme on drought preparedness and mitigation.

119. In the context of Agenda 21, chapter 12, UNSO, as the focal point within UNDP on drought and desertification, prepared the UNDP system-wide desertification strategy, which, after consultation with the regional bureaux and other concerned units in UNDP, was adopted in November. This strategy placed desertification higher on the UNDP agenda, foresaw the involvement of all units in desertification control, and also reinforced the role of UNDP in advocacy on this issue.

E. United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

120. As part of its commitment to the global campaign for women's human rights, UNIFEM took a leadership role at the World Conference on Human Rights (WCHR) and its parallel NGO Forum. In preparation for the meeting, UNIFEM funded the attendance of 10 women from developing countries at the final Preparatory Meeting. The Fund co-hosted, with the Government of the Netherlands and the North-South Institute, a three-day seminar entitled, "Calling for Change: International Strategies to End Violence Against Women". In addition, the Fund sponsored numerous preparatory meetings, panels, policy papers and seminars in Africa, the Asia/Pacific region and Latin America and the Caribbean structured around the theme of gender-based violence and women's human rights.

121. At the WCHR itself, with support from the Government of Canada, UNIFEM sponsored the participation of over 70 women from the developing world. Each day, the Fund convened a Women's Caucus that brought together official delegates and NGO and United Nations agency representatives to meet with the human rights experts charged with implementing the Vienna Declaration; the aim of Caucus

participants was to ensure that women's human rights were explicitly enshrined in the document. The Caucus provided a neutral space for building political trust and strengthening the sense of unity among women at all levels at the WCHR. UNIFEM also sponsored the participation of 15 testifiers and a video team at the Global Tribunal on Violations of Women's Human Rights, a joint initiative of women's human rights networks that was held to give a public face to the long-private issue of gender-based violence. The Tribunal included the personal testimonies of 33 women from all regions of the world.

122. Through its broad range of activities leading up to and during the WCHR, UNIFEM was able to act as a catalyst for a process that culminated in the creation of international legislation that champions the right of women around the world to live lives free from gender-based violence. UNIFEM will continue its involvement with this critical issue through its work with the Centre for Human Rights and as part of its regionally based programming initiatives in developing countries.

123. Highlighting and promoting women's roles as scientists, technologists, innovators, and stewards of indigenous knowledge was another major area of activity for the Fund during 1993. UNIFEM spearheaded the establishment of a global network of agencies working in the field of gender and science and technology for sustainable development. The main UNIFEM objective in organizing the network was to strengthen the linkages among participating organizations, including women's groups, women's environmental networks and women scientists in formal research institutions and then to help them in their quest to redirect the aim of science and technology towards meeting the daily needs of poor women and their families at the grass-roots level. Advocating women's active participation in this responsive, people-friendly vision of science and technology has become a new priority for UNIFEM and for the members of the network it has helped to create. During the year, the Fund was able to bring the experience and expertise of this network to the aid of the United Nations system by organizing an expert group meeting on behalf of the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women and by assisting the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development in the formation of an advisory committee on gender.

124. Finally, in response both to demands coming from the field for information and documentation on women and to the Governing Council decision 91/42, in which the Council stressed that the Fund should strengthen its capacity to monitor, evaluate and document its experimental and catalytic experiences or disseminate its findings to facilitate the interaction of women into mainstream economic development, the Fund's Advocacy Facility began full-scale production in 1993. During the year, three issues of UNIFEM News and five substantive books and monographs were published and widely disseminated; these documents were well received both inside and outside the United Nations system. To maintain the quality, timeliness and relevance of its publications, UNIFEM established an Editorial Committee of 20 of the world's leading thinkers and activists on women-in-development issues in May. A UNIFEM grant to the International Women's Tribune Centre early in 1993 ensured that UNIFEM and other women in development materials were efficiently marketed and distributed through a new service, Women Ink. As the field experiences of UNIFEM staff and other development practitioners were drawn upon heavily and developing country needs for

information specifically targeted, the resulting publications are valuable resources to low-income communities and those who seek to assist them around the world.

F. United Nations Volunteers (UNV)

125. In 1993, a total of 3,563 UNV specialists and field workers of 129 nationalities served in 134 countries. In addition to the regular technical cooperation activities in such thematic areas as agriculture, health, education and vocational training and development policy and planning, the period was marked by a more strategic UNV involvement in community-focused initiatives, humanitarian assistance, peace-building, electoral process and democratization activities.

126. UNV expanded its technical cooperation activities with countries in Central Europe and initiated its multisectoral programmes in the Central Asian Republics and the Baltic States. UNV specialists are called to help in the transition process by participating in training and the transfer of knowledge in business management and marketing, credit management, aid coordination, finance, banking and environment.

127. Working more closely with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA), UNV participation in humanitarian relief activities was very significant during 1993. UNV was consistently invited to participate in inter-agency programming exercises and programming missions to identify humanitarian needs, ensuring where appropriate, that UNV support is integrated into agency proposals in the consolidated humanitarian appeals launched by the Secretary-General. By the end of 1993, 300 UNV specialists had served in humanitarian programmes in the following countries under the auspices of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, WFP, WHO, FAO and UNDP: Afghanistan, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cambodia, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Iraq, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Somalia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Yemen, former Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

128. Under the auspices of UNTAC, 465 United Nations Volunteers from 45 countries, serving as District Electoral Supervisors, prepared for and administered the elections in Cambodia, which were held in May 1993. In addition to setting up the polling stations, the volunteers also conducted civic education programmes and trained local staff in electoral processes.

129. In Mozambique, in addition to the regular programme, 105 UNVs working under the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (UNUMOZ), assisted in the demobilization process, in the registration of demobilized soldiers, in providing logistic support to settlements of demobilized soldiers, as well as assisting in the humanitarian assistance coordination at the provincial level.

130. Utilizing Special Voluntary Fund (SVF) resources, several programme initiatives were implemented, including:

(a) Subregional programmes in support of volunteer roles in community-based initiatives (CBI) in South and South-East Asia, Eastern and Western Africa and Central and Latin America were established. The purpose would be to build on existing CBIs in selected priority-theme areas that utilize volunteers by testing new ideas, approaches and partnerships for programming volunteer inputs and generally increase awareness in each subregion as regards the role of volunteers in CBIs;

(b) Eco-volunteers and community-based environmental programmes in Costa Rica, Philippines, Poland and Zimbabwe. Under this programme, UNV is supporting the work of NGOs and organizations based in and working with local communities in finding solutions at the community level for environmental management and sustainable development issues as well as the promotion of active exchange among community-based groups. Forty-six eco-volunteers were involved in a wide range of activities, including water conservation, urban sanitation, conservation of the seashore, and the creation of green areas within urban environments;

(c) Community-focused programmes such as: artisan promotion in South Asia, through mutual volunteer support by village master craftsmen working on leather, bamboo, and textile weaving; SouthLinks, an experimental build-up of a volunteer network across the South in basic needs/environmental concerns; introducing participatory techniques in food-for-work urban poor programmes in the Dominican Republic; and helping to network NGOs, CBOs, municipalities and local governments in Latin America, in a variety of urban environmental and poverty-related areas.

C. Global Environmental Facility (GEF)

131. The three-year pilot phase (1991-1993) of the GEF has been a major initiative for UNDP, which serves as one of three implementing agencies along with the World Bank and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). In the pilot phase, UNDP has moved forward with an ambitious work programme representing more than $270 million in project funding within the four themes of global warming (38 per cent); the conservation of biodiversity (41 per cent); international water pollution (16 per cent); and ozone depletion (1 per cent). The balance of $10 million (4 per cent) is allocated to local community groups and NGOs through a small-grants programme.

132. During the GEF pilot phase, UNDP launched 55 free-standing technical cooperation projects, 27 of which are now under implementation. The UNDP work programme emphasizes capacity-building, pre-investment work, strategic studies and preparations that will pave the way for larger investment-oriented activities in later years.

133. In addition, during the pilot phase, UNDP initiated 19 pre-investment feasibility studies. UNDP also administers the GEF NGO Small Grants Programme on behalf of the three GEF partner agencies. To date, more than 125 distinct NGO and community-based projects in 15 countries have received small grants. UNDP has also focused a limited amount of funding for targeted research, including monitoring of changes in global environmental conditions relating to the four GEF priority theme areas.

134. An objective of the pilot phase has been to involve a wide range of programme countries from all regions of the world. UNDP GEF projects are being executed in 88 different countries in Africa (20 countries), the Arab States (12 countries), Asia and the Pacific (30 countries), Latin America and the Caribbean (16 countries), and in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (10 countries). Thirty-two countries have each received a country-specific project whereas 56 additional countries are involved in regional and global initiatives. Only two countries received more than one country-specific project (India and China) whereas 27 countries are involved in two or more regional/global projects.

135. The in-depth experience of UNDP with regional and global projects has been used to advantage in the pilot phase of the GEF, where 20 of 55 projects (36 per cent) involve several countries combined in a single initiative. Intercountry interventions are a natural feature of the GEF since they permit a whole-ecosystem approach to conserving biodiversity conservation and a more collaborative approach to global problems that transcend political boundaries.

136. By its very design, the GEF necessitates a high degree of collaboration with relevant partners at every stage of the project cycle. This is particularly the case for UNDP, which is structured to rely less on internal technical capacity and more on an ability to motivate, facilitate and network. The GEF work programme will continue to be a product of a partnership involving a wide range of players such as NGOs, local individuals and institutions, United Nations system agencies, intergovernmental organizations, the Bretton Woods institutions, the private sector, academies of education and research, and others.

137. In order to leverage GEF financial resources, UNDP also actively seeks co-financing of projects from non-GEF sources. To date, the Governments of Australia, Denmark, the Netherlands and Switzerland have shown a strong interest in committing bilateral/GEF co-financing to help fund UNDP-led projects.

138. UNDP policy with respect to information disclosure is one of full openness and transparency. All documents relevant to UNDP-managed GEF projects will be made available upon request. UNDP is also committed to providing accessible, ongoing and current information on the broad scope of its work programme. In support of this, UNDP initiated two quarterly publications during 1993: Partners, a newsletter about UNDP GEF activities, featuring project summaries, information on the four GEF thematic areas and interviews with leaders in the field of sustainable development; and the Operational Bulletin, which provides a detailed and comprehensive status report on the UNDP GEF portfolio. In addition, UNDP is publishing and distributing each of its 55 project documents as they are signed.

H. Trust Fund for the Interim Multilateral Fund under the Montreal Protocol

139. The Montreal Protocol called for the phase-out of ozone-depleting substances such as CFCs and halons by the year 2000, with developing countries allowed a 10-year grace period. An interim multilateral fund was created to

assist developing countries meet their incremental costs (mainly technical and financial) resulting from the adoption of substitute technologies to help them comply with the Protocol's phase-out provisions. By March 1994, UNDP had received $38.3 million from the Fund.

140. UNDP assisted 29 developing countries in the planning, preparation and implementation of country programmes, projects and sectoral activities to replace and phase out CFCs and halons through on-site technical training, feasibility and pre-investment projects. The sectors covered included refrigeration and air-conditioning, mobile air-conditioning, aerosols, foams, solvents and fire-extinguishing.

141. UNDP efforts in the field resulted in the following achievements:

(a) Seven country programmes (China, Costa Rica, Cuba, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Philippines, Uruguay) have been approved with UNDP as lead agency. The China programme, at $2.4 billion, has been considered a model programme;

(b) Over 45 technical cooperation and training activities have been completed in 15 countries;

(c) Twelve institutional-strengthening agreements are operational (Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ghana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela);

(d) Twenty six technology transfer investment projects designed by UNDP experts have been approved in 1993 and are operational and 29 more such projects were approved in March 1994;

(e) Four investment projects have already been completed (three in Egypt and one in Malaysia) that have phased out 317 tonnes of CFCs. These are the first investment projects approved by the Executive Committee to have been completed.

I. Capacity 21

142. In paragraph 5 of its decision 93/12 of 18 June 1993, the Governing Council requested the Administrator to proceed with the implementation of Capacity 21. By March 1994, a total of $33,326,698 had been pledged by 12 donors.

143. The first year of Capacity 21 was a period of intense activity to launch the initiative and to begin to develop a portfolio of national programmes. Management procedures were developed. A Management Committee was set up within UNDP, chaired at the level of Assistant Administrator, with representation from all the regional bureaux, the Division for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and the Bureau for Programme and Policy Evaluation (BPPE).

144. At the end of the first year of Capacity 21, programmes had been prepared, presented to the Management Committee and approved for 20 countries. There were two meetings during the first year of operation. Special arrangements have been

made with UNEP and WHO for collaboration in Capacity 21. Several agencies are collaborating in the preparation of a series of monographs on capacity-building.

145. The main lesson from 1993 is that there is no single approach or blueprint for sustainable development; any tendency to dictate remedies from a central position must be resisted. The proposals that have been received for Capacity 21 support are as varied as the countries they have come from and all reflect the particular stage in the sustainable development debate that has been reached in each nation. It will be necessary for Capacity 21, and the donor community overall, to maintain the necessary flexibility to respond to the varying requirements of each country.

146. A second important lesson is that capacity-building takes time. Where capacity is weakest, achieving goals takes longer. Capacity-building is not best achieved through the conventional project approach. The developing countries are increasingly demanding that donors match their requirements for the recipient countries to change their approaches by changing the way in which development assistance funds are allocated and managed. Capacity-building for sustainable development requires the development of new processes of government and management, the achievement of consensus at all levels of society, and fundamental changes in the way that business is done. This cannot be achieved quickly or simply.

147. During its second year of operation, Capacity 21 will continue to support national programmes of capacity-building for sustainable development. In doing so, it will consider the particular needs of each individual country. Funds will be disbursed carefully and at a pace that matches the innate ability of each country to respond to capacity-building challenges. Capacity 21 will continue to build upon indigenous capacity and will allocate resources according to the needs and absorptive capacity of existing institutions and communities. Emphasis will continue to be placed on process rather than on product although all programmes will proceed with a clear definition of what is to be achieved and within which time-frame.

V. OTHER MAJOR FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

A. Technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC)

148. An increase in TCDC activities, including those within the United Nations system programmes, was observed during 1993. Reports and information provided by the United Nations development system to the High-Level Committee on the Review of TCDC at its eighth session held 25 to 28 May 1993, showed clearly the increasingly high priority given to the TCDC modality. Promotional and operational activities supported by the system are increasing, as indicated by the number and total cost of projects undertaken. A positive trend was also seen in the increased financial contributions for TCDC from national budgets which some developing countries have made.

149. The priority of TCDC as a key element in international technical cooperation continues to be reaffirmed in high level forums, most recently in General Assembly resolution 48/172 of 21 December 1993. In addition to

endorsing the report of the Eighth Session of the High-Level Committee for the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the decisions adopted, the resolution urges all Member States to give high priority and full support in their specific fields of operational activities to TCDC, and requests all parties involved in the implementation of the strategy for the promotion and application of TCDC in the 1990s to ensure the widespread use of such cooperation.

150. The TCDC strategy for the 1990s has these main elements:

(a) Expanding sensitization on TCDC at national, subregional and regional levels in both the public and private sectors;

(b) Articulating national TCDC policies by the developing countries as part of their development efforts;

(c) Strengthening national TCDC focal points at all levels;

(d) Enhancing the database on capacities and expertise existing in developing country institutions;

(e) Mobilizing adequate resources for the expansion and promotion of TCDC for promotional and advocacy roles;

(f) Pooling resources in support of TCDC activities to complement TCDC efforts within UNDS;

(g) According "first consideration" to the use of TCDC in the implementation of development programmes/projects, irrespective of the source of funding;

(h) Increasing support and greater priority for networking and twinning arrangements;

(i) Giving greater support to identifying problems of common concern and formulating common policies and approaches in the South.

151. Sensitization on TCDC. This is being expanded, based on a decentralized training-of-trainers approach at the national, regional and subregional levels, targeting both public and private sector development professionals as well as United Nations development system staff. In addition to sensitization workshops held in all of the regions, there were UNDP headquarters and country office briefings. Orientation on the TCDC modality was also provided as an integral part of other promotional TCDC activities, including TCDC national focal point meetings and intercountry subject-specific workshops. Information activities are being strengthened with the production of a new TCDC brochure, improvement in the quality and substantive content of the TCDC magazine, Cooperation South, regular publication of the TCDC newsletter, Focus, and the screening of the new TCDC video, Self-reliance: The TCDC Option.

152. Strengthening TCDC national focal points as well as those within the United Nations system continued to be given priority. Two regional workshops

(Asia/Pacific and Africa) were held to assist in further developing the role of focal points in promoting and advising on the application of TCDC. These workshops provided the framework for discussions on such key issues as the importance of allocating greater financial resources and manpower for TCDC; the need to define more clearly the roles and responsibilities of national focal points; the necessity for greater articulation of national TCDC policies; and an exploration of ways to increase use of the TCDC modality in technical cooperation in compliance with the Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/41 that first consideration be given to TCDC. Implementation of the specific recommendations arising from these workshops will be monitored and evaluated as part of the continuing support for focal points.

153. TCDC-INRES continued to expand and improve its database on capacities and expertise existing in institutions of developing countries. Updating of the TCDC-INRES database gathered momentum, especially during the second half of 1993. The software system also underwent a complete redesign in order to make it easier to update and maintain and to disseminate it to a greater number of user locations. Over 1,800 newly updated registrations, roughly half of the entries in the data bank, have been entered in the new INRES master database. A conversion has been made to a full-text retrieval system that will be widely distributed in the near future. In addition to ease of use and suitability for use on a decentralized basis, the new INRES software offers much greater compatibility with other database systems than was previously the case, opening up the possibility for easy exchange of data with other systems.

154. Capacities and needs-matching consultations were held in Bangladesh (rural credit and poverty alleviation), Zimbabwe (mining), Nigeria (agriculture, science and technology) and Uganda (industry services and training institutions for the private sector), with bilateral negotiations finalized for the latter. The objectives of these exercises is to enhance the exchange of technical capacities between the participating developing countries in these priority sectors with an emphasis on strengthening their institutional capacities.

155. Intercountry workshops and networking were carried out, covering priority subjects identified by the developing countries and with the subprogrammes approved for the cycle. Resource mobilization through aid coordination and management continued to be a priority area and was the subject of a study coordinated by Chile, covering the experience of nine countries in Latin America and the Caribbean in aid coordination and management. A network arrangement in inter-university cooperation on policy research coordinated by the Addis Ababa University was launched. The project aims at enhancing the relevance of research by several universities in national policy formulation relating to sustainable development through the promotion of network activities among the participating countries and by strengthening mechanisms for functional linkages and exchanges of data.

156. Other activities dealt with interregional workshops, matching of capacities and needs exercises. The following examples of activities supported in 1993 show the diversity and richness in the areas of exchange of experience and skills; nearly all involved experts and participants from most or all the regions: privatization (Ethiopia); policy-framework studies (Benin); poverty alleviation (Zimbabwe); striga control (Zimbabwe); foreign-aid coordination

(Malta); medicinal plants (Turkey); trade development (Arab Emirates); drinking-water sanitation (India); mega-cities environment/poverty alleviation (Indonesia); micro-economic policy for transitional economies (Mongolia); private sector/scientific community interlinkages (Argentina); south-south trade (Colombia); external debt (Argentina); debt swaps (Honduras); border country activities (Chile); networking among NGO women community leaders (Costa Rica); indigenous women, textiles and cultural identity (Guatemala); migration/sustainable development (Argentina); joint research activities in ethno-botany (Asia/Latin America).

B. Humanitarian assistance

157. Against the background of a continuing and worsening trend of disasters and emergencies around the world, UNDP has taken several important steps during 1993 in the general area of the relief to development continuum as mandated in Governing Council decision 93/11. UNDP has continued to work in particularly close liaison with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

158. During 1993, a total of 54 approvals were made under the Disaster Mitigation category of the SPR. UNDP also initiated support for the reintegration of uprooted populations in Cambodia, Djibouti, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Somalia.

159. One of the largest activities supported by UNDP in the disaster and emergency field continues to be the Disaster Management Training Programme (DMTP), which is jointly managed with the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs. During 1993, DMTP conducted 15 workshops, thus bringing the number of countries covered to over 30 and the number of persons trained in full-scale workshops to over 1,200 since June 1991. DMTP training materials have been requested by institutions in over 100 countries.

160. In the latter part of the year, UNDP assumed the chairmanship of a 17-organization Inter-Agency Working Group on the Relief-to-Development Continuum. At the same time, UNDP recruited a group of eminent consultants to make recommendations to the Administrator regarding UNDP'S own programme and operational policies and procedures in the continuum. Reports on the results of both of these undertakings will be provided to the Executive Board in 1994.

C. Inter-agency Procurement Services Office (IAPSO)

161. In 1993, global standards for field motor vehicles and motorcycles were established for 170 developing countries jointly with major buyers in the United Nations system. The work on the standardization of various other common-user items, such as heavy field motor vehicles, office equipment and computers was continued and enabled negotiation of preferential prices for all United Nations organizations, based on aggregate United Nations volumes and international bidding. For motor vehicles alone, direct savings were estimated at $20 million annually on an estimated 6,000 purchase orders for the United Nations system. Pre-negotiated prices simplified procurement, resulting in additional savings on account of administrative costs and in transparency in procurement. The

technical and price details for common-user items were routinely disseminated in regularly updated catalogues. Direct procurement services were provided to the international aid community and field offices and a total of over 2,300 purchase orders were processed by IAPSO for a value of $44.1 million, an increase of 40 per cent over the previous year.

162. It is estimated that direct services were provided to some 4,500 companies and organizations and that indirectly some 30,000 companies worldwide received information on the United Nations as a market. In addition, special information seminars were organized in cooperation with national focal points and trade promotion organizations, events that provide the opportunity for IAPSO and other United Nations organizations to learn about new supply sources and enlist them in respective rosters on potential sources for future procurement. To expand the geographical distribution of United Nations contracts, IAPSO provides advisory services and information to the business community, the main tool being the "General Business Guide" published annually in English, French and Spanish and dissemination of information on market opportunities through "Procurement Update" and "Development Business".

163. To promote procurement from developing countries, IAPSO devoted attention to technical cooperation projects in cooperation with interested Governments and trade promotion organizations and the International Trade Centre (ITC). Product catalogues were published for Nigeria and Argentina and work on projects in Singapore and Korea proceeded according to plan. Additional projects are under negotiation in Africa and Latin America.

164. IAPSO paid special attention to companies in underutilized major donor countries, providing market information services, direct advisory services, hosting company visits and participating in business seminars together with other agencies such as UNICEF, UNDP/OPS, UNHCR, WFP and UNIDO. Potential supply sources from these target countries interested in doing business with the United Nations system are registered by IAPSO and information circulated to United Nations organizations and field offices through country catalogues on potential supply sources of goods and services. Environmental technologies are offering new strategic business opportunities in connection with the implementation of the Rio Summit resolutions as formulated in Agenda 21. In March, IAPSO hosted an environmental technology seminar with cooperation from the Danish Foreign Ministry, an event that played a modest catalytic role in building partnership between UNDP and donor countries for technical cooperation in support of sustainable development. In August, IAPSO was invited to participate in the event "Environment Northern Seas", where the UNDP environment programmes were presented in the perspective of business opportunities. The build-up of potential supply sources in the environmental field is the tangible result of these efforts. This information is made available to United Nations agencies and field offices.

165. The United Nations common-vendor database was expanded and updating initiated with cooperation from the United Nations specialized agencies. This tool for sharing information on tried procurement sources has been distributed to a selected number of field offices, in view of expanded responsibilities for procurement activities, in particular recently revised instructions concerning projects under national execution. Goods and services are classified according

to the United Nations Common Coding System (UNCCS), which facilitates retrieval of information. UNCCS has now been adopted by the majority of United Nations organizations; most recently, the World Bank adopted UNCCS to identify consultant services.

166. In supporting the goals of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, IAPSO took the lead in developing standard specifications for emergency relief items in accordance with its mandate to identify opportunities for economy and improve delivery terms for United Nations procurement activities. Technical specifications were initially developed for telecommunication, shelter and water supply equipment, in cooperation with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations and other humanitarian organizations having relevant technical and operational experience. For immediate access to this information, IAPSO developed a database for emergency relief items, DIRE, which will include suppliers and stockpiles worldwide, quantities available for immediate delivery and indicative prices. An on-line access to the database is planned.

167. Statistical reports were compiled for annual procurement by the United Nations system, including technical cooperation components such as experts, consultants and fellowships for the Governing Council and the Economic and Social Council.

168. The strategic location of IAPSO in Denmark, vis-à-vis major Nordic donors, led to the outposting of a Division of Public Affairs (DPA) information officer, improving UNDP information activities in the region. Distribution of UNDP publications was handled from IAPSO and support provided through the in-house printing facility, which, inter alia, produced advanced copies of the Human Development Report. Moreover, an OPS liaison officer was posted to Copenhagen to provide a direct link to the Nordic countries and manage Danish and Norwegian consultancy funds.

D. Office for Project Services (OPS)

169. OPS implemented projects and programmes funded by UNDP core funds, UNDP-administered funds, other United Nations programmes and by bilateral and multilateral donors through Management Services Agreements (MSAs). The office also provided services ranging from project management to the provision of specific inputs (e.g., goods, international consultants, fellowships) mainly in respect of multisectoral projects and projects not usually handled by United Nations specialized agencies, such as post-emergency rehabilitation and capacity-building for national execution.

170. By December 1993, OPS was actively involved in 1,751 projects; 1,546 were OPS-executed; 191 nationally executed; OPS also acted as an associated agency for 14 projects. At the end of 1993, the total value of the budgets of the OPS portfolio was approximately $609 million; 41 per cent ($252 million) funded by UNDP core-funds; 24 per cent ($144 million) by United Nations and UNDP trust funds; and 35 per cent ($213 million) under MSAs. Total OPS project expenditure for 1993 is estimated at $385 million. By the end of 1993, a total of 461 new

projects had been accepted, representing an increase of 6.5 per cent in terms of the number of projects and of 11 per cent in terms of value of projects.

171. In line with the General Assembly resolution 47/199, OPS has been requested to act as cooperating agency for 71 nationally executed projects valued at $28.3 million. Furthermore, recognizing the importance of organizations of the United Nations system in their specific areas of competence, OPS has continued to pursue an active inter-agency collaboration. By the end of 1993, OPS had signed 86 inter-agency agreements, 13 more than in 1992, valued at $13 million.

172. In 1993, OPS entered into 50 new MSAs: 14 involving loans or credits from development banks (the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)); 19 with IFAD; and 17 with bilateral donors or the recipient Government itself. At the end of the year, the total number of active MSA projects was 220. It should be noted that "active" MSAs also include several MSAs for which operational activities have ended but the projects are not yet closed. The proportion of OPS projects implemented under MSAs remained roughly equivalent to prior years, accounting for 14 per cent of the total number of active projects while the share in value was around 33 per cent or $726 million (excluding IFAD loan disbursement). Thanks to the Japanese Procurement Programme, the largest volume of MSAs continues to be in Africa and the World Bank and IDB-funded MSAs are still concentrated in Latin America. In 1993, OPS has worked in close collaboration with the Regional Bureau for Africa and its country offices to promote MSAs in Africa so as to increase the capability of countries to disburse funds provided by multilateral and bilateral donors.

173. The number of contracts has greatly increased compared to last year. OPS contracted the expertise of private, semi-private and public companies and institutions, selected mostly on a competitive basis, awarding 952 contracts for a total value of $117 million, and 89 contract amendments totalling $5 million. Regarding project personnel, OPS hired 2,095 individual international consultants and 2,914 National Professionals. Also, 406 international experts and 2,035 local support staff were recruited. In addition, a total of 3,746 persons benefited from training in the form of individual fellowships (361), study tours (196), participation in conferences (101), or in-country group training (3,088).

174. The total value of supplies and equipment procured for OPS projects in 1993 is estimated at $44 million (excluding the Japanese Procurement Programme), representing a 38 per cent increase compared to 1992. In addition, $56 million worth of goods were procured under the Japanese Non-Project Procurement Programme. This programme financed vital inputs in 19 LDCs under untied grants. The five major categories of items procured for 1993 included: road construction, electronic equipment, motor vehicles, laboratory equipment and food-processing equipment.

E. Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People

175. The Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP) is uniquely situated to become a major channel for external development assistance to the emerging Palestinian interim Government, following the historic

Israeli-Palestinian peace accord reached in September 1993. The accord gave limited self-rule to the Gaza Strip and Jericho. It called for massive aid to address the crippling economic conditions where, in some areas, unemployment rates exceed 40 per cent of the working population. To help meet the challenge, UNDP, working in close cooperation with Palestinian authorities, formulated 34 capacity-building projects involving the governance, agriculture, industry, urban development, trade promotion, statistics, water, sanitation and environment and gender in development. By year-end Governments had pledged more than one third of the $75 million required to complete these projects. If the full funding target is reached, PAPP will become the largest UNDP "country" programme.

176. In 1993 alone, UNDP investment in the Occupied Palestinian Territories totalled approximately $15 million, bringing its total investment to more than $50 million. This includes projects financed by UNDP's own resources, WHO, UNFPA, AGFUND, Canada, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Tunisia and the United States. Following the peace agreement, the Administrator strengthened the UNDP sub-office in Gaza, where more than half of UNDP activities have taken place.

177. The completion of two modern production facilities in the Gaza Strip may help put this devastated region on the road to recovery. Construction of a $12-million citrus processing and tomato-paste plant in Gaza, financed by Italy and UNDP, represents the largest technical cooperation project ever undertaken in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. When it opens in 1994, it will produce fresh fruit juice and concentrate for export and domestic consumption. The second plant is the Beit Lahia Cooperative Vegetable Packing and Grading Facility, which will sort, grade and pack tomatoes and potatoes grown by the 750 members of the cooperative.